

# Sustainable Sundays: Into the Local Wild

***This Month's Installment Explores Local Biodiversity and Habitats from the Insects of Los Angeles to the Southland's Sea Creatures***

***Sunday, May 30, 2010; 9:30 am to 3:30 pm***

**Los Angeles** -- The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County concludes its 2010 Sustainable Sundays season with a fun-filled day of interactive workshops and activities designed to teach visitors of all ages about our local wildlife. The U.N. declared 2010 the year of biodiversity, but what does that mean? Sustainable Sundays participants will find out, and gain a deeper understanding of the amazing biodiversity in Southern California.

## **Local Entomology**

On this last Sunday of May, the exhibitions won't be confined to the galleries. The Museum's scientists and educators will be in the Grand Foyer setting up themed displays for the day. They'll be showing collections of local fauna that are not usually on view to the public. Entomology Curator, Dr. Brian Brown, has assembled specimens of **locally found insects**, big and small, and he'll be answering questions during the event. Come see a fascinating Jerusalem beetle, grand Polyphemus and Ceanothus moths, and a group of stunning butterflies — all from the L.A. region.

## **Marine Biodiversity of California**

Nearby, NHM's Marine Biodiversity Center will show a sampling of **Southland sea creatures**, from crustaceans to mollusks. Specimens from up and down the California coast will include keyhole limpets from Long Beach, sand crabs from Pismo Beach, and a variety of aquatic life forms from Malibu.

## **Organizations in Attendance at Sustainable Sundays**

The NHM is also teaming up with outside organizations that will be present to teach about local biodiversity. The Los Angeles Zoo's booth will offer lessons and visuals related to the California Condor. **The L.A. Zoo** has long been involved with the **California Condor Recovery Program**, which aims to establish a self-sustaining wild population of the massive birds through captive breeding and reintroduction into the wild. Other groups setting up informational and interactive booths will include **Children's Nature Institute**, **Ecos World**, **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service** and **Transition to Green**.

## **Crafts and Activities**

Sustainable Sundays are hands-on events, and this one will be no exception. Museum guests will have the chance to view, and make, **origami animals with local artists, Michael Sanders and Yami Yamauchi**. They'll be leading interactive workshops throughout the day using paper and intricate folds to make origami representations of local fauna. Throughout the

day there will also be **habitat building with artist Marissa Johnen**, live animal presentations in the Museum's Discovery Center, and special butterfly-themed performances.

**Schedule:**

9:30 am – 3:30 pm	<b>Organizations and Activities</b>	Grand Foyer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NHM's Entomology Department</li> <li>• NHM's Marine Biodiversity Center</li> <li>• L.A. Zoo</li> <li>• California Condor Recovery Program</li> <li>• Children's Nature Institute</li> <li>• U.S. Fish &amp; Wildlife Service</li> <li>• Ecos World</li> <li>• Transition to Green</li> <li>• Origami Animal Making</li> <li>• Habitat-building Crafts</li> </ul>	
11:00 am Center	<b>Live Animal Presentation</b>	Discovery
11:30 am Mammal Hall-	<b>Dinosaur Encounters Performance</b>	North American
12:00 pm Center	<b>Story Time</b>	Level 2 Discovery
1:30 pm American Mammal Hall-	<b><i>I, Butterfly</i> Performance</b>	North
2:00 pm Foyer	<b>Gallery Exploration tour "Banking on Biodiversity"</b>	Level 2 Meet in Grand
2:30 pm Mammal Hall-	<b>Dinosaur Encounters Performance</b>	North American
3:00 pm Center	<b>Live Animal Presentation</b>	Level 2 Discovery
3:30 pm Mammal Hall-	<b>Dinosaur Encounters Performance</b>	North American
		Level 2

**About Natural History Museum's Sustainable Sundays series**

Sustainable Sundays returns for a second season to help Angelenos navigate the copious "green" information circulating in contemporary media, learn about the latest environmental research, and explore specific ways they can become active in community-

minded conservation efforts.

On each Sunday in the series, there are booths and representatives from local environmental groups in the Museum's Grand Foyer throughout the day. There are also free family activities and performances.

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### **About the Natural History Museum**

The Museum was the first dedicated museum building in Los Angeles, opening its doors in 1913. It has amassed one of the world's most extensive and valuable collections of natural and cultural history — with more than 35 million objects, some as old as 4.5 billion years. The Natural History Family of Museums includes the NHM, the Page Museum at the La Brea Tar Pits (Hancock Park/Mid-Wilshire), and the William S. Hart Park and Museum (Newhall, California). The Family of Museums serves more than one million families and visitors annually, and is a national leader in research, exhibitions and education. For more information, call (213) 763-DINO or visit [www.nhm.org](http://www.nhm.org).

### **NHM Next**

Last year's completed renovation of the Beaux-Arts 1913 Building, the original component of the NHM, has set the stage for the rollout of a series of new, permanent exhibitions leading up to the Museum's centennial in 2013: *Age of Mammals* and the Haaga Family Rotunda galleries open in July 2010; *Dinosaur Mysteries* in July 2011; the outdoor nature experiences in 2011/2012; and an exhibition focusing on Southern California's environmental history, in late 2012.